I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below Express Mail No. EU313730655 and is addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PATENT Attorney Docket No.: A-2-10

on June 24, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PHILIP E. EGGERS et al.

Application No.: unassigned

Filed: herewith

For: SYSTEMS FOR ELECTROSURGICAL TISSUE TREATMENT IN CONDUCTIVE FLUID

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Examiner:

Art Unit: 3739

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before substantive examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-79 and insert the following new claims 1-13.

1. (New) A method for removing a structure in or around a patient's heart comprising:

introducing a distal end of a catheter shaft through an opening in the patient's body to the patient's heart, the catheter shaft having a distal opening and an inner lumen in communication with the distal opening;